

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

ALAIN Y. LEVEQUE ET. AL.

CASE NO.: AD6571USCNT1

APPLICATION NO.: 10/660236

GROUP ART UNIT: 1723

FILED: SEPTEMBER 11, 2003

EXAMINER: CHARLES E. COOLEY

FOR: SCREW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Sir:

Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Claim Under 35 USC § 120
Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3)

Applicants hereby petition to permit amendment of Applicants' specification to include specific cross-reference to U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/585172, filed on June 1, 2000, now abandoned and to afford Applicants the benefit of that priority date.

The reference required under 35 USC § 120 was unintentionally delayed from the time it was due until the date of this Petition.

Applicants' attorney hereby certifies, by his signature below that he was unaware of that the above patent application had been inadvertently omitted from the section entitled CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS upon the filing of the specification in the instant application.

Applicants' attorney further certifies that he became aware that the proper cross-reference was missing only on October 26, 2004, when he was preparing amendments to that part of the specification in response to the Examiner's objection in an office action dated May 28, 2004.

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Applicants' attorney has submitted an Amendment and Substitute Specification, requesting the specification to be amended to include the following cross-reference:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of pending U.S. application No. 10/209,253, filed July 30, 2002, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/585172, filed June 1, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No 09/334,331, filed June 16, 1999, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/283,516, filed April 1, 1999, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/073,281, filed May 6, 1998, now abandoned.

Authorization to pay the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(t) from account No. 04-1928.

Respectfully submitted



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Dated: October 28, 2004

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